

St. John's Church of England Primary School and Nursery

Laund Nook, Belper, Derbyshire DE56 1GY, 01773 822995

www.stjohnsbelper.co.uk

info@st-johnscofe.derbyshire.sch.uk

Headteacher Mr. R. Averis B.Sc. P.G.C.E. N.P.Q.H.



1/5/2026

Dear Parents and carers

As most of our parents will be aware, at St. John's each summer we work with Sun Safe Schools and SKCIN to ensure that our children are educated about the importance of sun safety and the potential dangers of sun exposure. This summer, we are delighted to once again offer children the use of our school sun cream. We will be providing children with access to our wall-mounted sun cream stations, which contain dispensers with SPF 30, 5-star UVA, broad-spectrum sunscreen. This is the same product that has been used during previous summers. All children from Nursery to Year 6 will have opportunities to apply sunscreen themselves before extended periods of time outdoors.

Please note that teachers will encourage children who we know have permission to use the cream dispensers at appropriate times. However, unfortunately, we do not have the staffing capacity to ensure that all children who have permission have applied the sunscreen effectively. The school sun cream is intended to support children in topping up cream that has already been applied at home and to help them begin to take responsibility for their own sun safety. We therefore still rely on you to apply sunscreen before your child arrives at school to ensure total protection.

Please indicate if you would like your child to have access to this cream by completing and returning the slip attached to this letter. Should you wish to patch test a sample of the sunscreen to ensure there are no adverse reactions, you are welcome to do so. A sample is available from the school office and can be used at the end of the school day. If you do not wish your child to use the school sun cream this summer, please ensure that they are aware not to use the dispensers.

We also ask that parents ensure their child has a suitable sun hat, which is clearly labelled and kept in school until the end of September. Sun hats should ideally be broad-brimmed (bucket style) or legionnaire style. Baseball caps are not recommended, as they do not provide adequate shade for the neck and ears. Skin cancer is now the most common and fastest-rising cancer in the UK. Malignant melanoma, the deadliest form of the disease, is one of the more common cancers in young adults aged 15–34. Sunburn during childhood can cause irreparable damage to a child's delicate skin which, over time, can develop into serious health consequences. While we recognise that some sun exposure is beneficial, we are mindful of the importance of protecting the children in our care from overexposure to UV radiation during outdoor play and activities.

The good news is that skin cancer is almost entirely preventable, and these simple measures can help ensure that your child's skin is protected from the sun's harmful rays.

For further information about sun safety and skin cancer, please visit www.skcin.org. This website includes an excellent UV forecast for the day and week ahead, which may help you to plan appropriate sun-care measures. If you have any concerns or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Girling
Sun Safe Schools co-ordinator



St. John's Church of England Primary School and Nursery



SUN SAFE SCHOOLS PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONSE FORM

Please return to class teacher as soon as possible so that they can be made aware of which children are to be encouraged to use the school sun cream.

I agree / do not agree (delete as appropriate) for my child to use the sunscreen provided by the school*

* Please note, the sunscreen provided by the school is of a high quality and any reactions are unlikely. However, if you are concerned about sensitive skin or your child has had adverse reactions to sunscreen in the past, it is your responsibility to test the product on your child's skin before signing. If you would like to test the product before signing please feel free to come into school to do so.

Name of
child.....Class.....

Signed.....

Date:.....